

INTERACTIVE FLOW  
VISUALIZATION, GRAPHICAL EDITING AND ANALYSIS OF TEXTUAL  
LANGUAGES

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention is a method for creating systems that support visual editing and manipulation of arbitrary (any language) textual source code as graphical flowcharts. The  
10 cornerstone of this invention is a textual Flow Structure Markup Language (FSML) that encodes algorithmic flow information representing the logical procedural intent of a file (or files) of textual code. The FSML can be placed within a file containing both text source code and FSML encoded flow information, or in parallel as a secondary file that stores the flow information, or as an attribute in a database record wherein each record  
15 can also contain a single procedural instruction of the procedural language or reference therein. In all embodiments the flow information is synchronized with the text code instructions so that each line, or instruction of text code, has a corresponding line, tag, or identifying mark that denotes, or encodes, the type of flow that a text code instruction represents.